

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/937,463

Examiner

Cong-Lac Huynh

Applicant(s)

FUKUDA ET AL.

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 2/27/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-27 and 29-34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William Frommer on 4/17/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

- cancel claims 35 and 36
- amend claims 16, 29, and 32 as follows:

16. An information processing apparatus comprising:

selection means for selecting a material clip from a plurality of material clips for automatic editing process;

scenario data memory means for storing scenario data configured into a plurality of scenes having timing information including start time of each scene of said plurality of scenes;

corresponding means for corresponding data in said selected material clip as editing objects to said each scene of said plurality of scenes;

category means for providing special effect categories of text category, effect category, transition category, and shake category for editing said material clip;

editing means for editing said material clip with at least one special effects selected from said special effects categories so that said plurality of scenes includes transitions between scenes with special effects scenes;

~~wherein said special effects are selected from a plurality of distinct special effects categories, said distinct special effects categories including at least a text category, an effect category, a transition category and a shake category; and~~

first display means for displaying said material clips; and

second display means for displaying said plurality of scenes including said transitions.

29. An information processing method comprising:

selecting a material clip from a plurality of material clips for automatic editing process;

storing scenario data configured into a plurality of scenes having timing information including start time of each scene of said plurality of scenes;

corresponding data in said selected material clip as editing objects to said each scene of said plurality of scenes;

providing special effect categories of text category, effect category, transition category, and shake category for modifying said material clip;

modifying said material clip with at least one special effects selected from said special effects categories so that said plurality of scenes includes transitions between scenes with special effects scenes; and

~~wherein said special effects are selected from a plurality of distinct special effects categories, said distinct special effects categories including at least a text category, an effect category and a shake category; and~~

continuously reproducing said plurality of material clips on the basis of said scenario data.

32. A program storage medium in which a program capable of being read by a computer comprising:

selecting a material clip from a plurality of material clips for automatic editing process;

storing scenario data configured into a plurality of scenes having timing information including start time of each scene of said plurality of scenes;

corresponding data in said selected material clip as editing objects to said each scene of said plurality of scenes;

~~corresponding data in said selected material clip as editing objects to said each scene of said plurality of scenes;~~

providing special effect categories of text category, effect category, transition category, and shake category for modifying said material clip;

modifying said material clip with at least one special effects selected from said special effects categories so that said plurality of scenes includes transitions between scenes with special effects scenes; and

continuously reproducing said plurality of material clips on the basis of said scenario data.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: a method for processing material clips which are edited based on special effects such as adding or deleting data from the clips to increase or decrease the playback speed of the video clip is disclosed by Miller. However, providing special effect categories of text category, effect category, transition category, and shake category and editing material clips by selecting at least one special effect from said special effect categories are not disclosed by, or would not have been obvious to an ordinary skill over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cong-Lac Huynh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4125.



Cong-Lac Huynh
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2178
4/24/06